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White House Christmas tree arrives



First lady Michelle Obama with daughters Sasha, second from right, and Malia, right, bends down to smell the official White House Christmas tree, a 19-foot Fraser Fir from Jefferson, N.C., at the North Portico of the White House in Washington, upon its arrival yesterday.

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KFC @ Palm Beach



KFC SOGOOD

Law on Petroleum passes Parliament

ORANJESTAD -- On Wednesday, the Aruba Parliament deliberated on the changes in the law with respect to Petroleum exploration. It took all day for Parliament to deliberate on this important matter. After responding to a battery of questions and listening to numerous observations on the matter, finally in the late hours of the evening there were 15 votes cast in favor and 2 votes against from Booshi Wever and Ady Thijssen. The law makers indicated that the changes were necessary to make it possible to explore under the subsoil of Aruban waters for gas or petroleum.

Nowadays governments employ parties who may be interested and willing to invest quantum sums necessary to do exploration of this magnitude. It is when third parties make such large investments that it is essential to provide them the best fiscal arrangements possible and create a healthy balance between the benefits for Aruba and the benefits for the third party making the invest-



ments.

One of the conditions stipulated is that in the event there would be a profit, they would be levied the normal profit tax of 28%. More and more countries are signing these kinds of contracts with commercial associations. The eventual profit to the country comes in the form of taxes and a part of the contract. This is called the "government's take."

The company doing the ex-

ploration puts money into a fund annually, so that when the wells dry up, this money is used to pay for dismantling expenses. The current fiscal arrangement as stipulated in the petroleum law entails a special regimen; hence they chose to not use the other regimens, such as the IPC, free zone and fiscal transparency. The passing of Wednesday's new law will afford Aruba a new impulse for the future of her economy.

Coast Guard seizes nearly a ton of cocaine

MIAMI -- There was lots of "white powder" on Miami Beach Miami yesterday but it had nothing to do with snow or the weather. The Coast Guard offloaded nearly a ton of cocaine at their Miami Beach station which was seized during a drug patrol in the Caribbean.

The 42 bales represented a seizure of cocaine cowboys era proportions. The estimated value of the cocaine is \$22 million.

The Coast Guard cutter Bear delivered the piles of noxious white powder and participated in the operation that seized it, but did not make the actual takedown. The pursuit of the smugglers and seizure of the coke was carried out by the Royal Netherlands Navy ship the Van Amstel.

The Amstel was participating in Operation Martillo,

Spanish for "hammer," a multi-agency, multi-nation effort targeting smugglers of drugs, weapons and cash from the Caribbean and Latin America. Operation Martillo, an unprecedented cooperative effort, is under the direction of the

Miami-based United States Southern Command, or SOUTHCOM.

The smugglers, in a go-fast boat, threw the bales of cocaine overboard as they were being chased.

Continued on page 3

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Book on Kidney Transplant presented by Monet Jones



Author of the book "kidney Transplant - Experience of a Social Companion in Holland," just recently presented a copy of her book to Minister Richard Visser. Monet Jones explained how and who motivated her to put her information in book form and make it available to the general public. She said her book is actually primarily for kidney patients and their families who live with the illness of a bad kidney.

In her book Jones describes every step and the information people need when they have to travel to Holland for a kidney transplant. She explains three basic aspects: the medical aspect – from dialysis to the transplant; the practical and logistic aspect and the emotional aspect.

The Minister remarked about the government's concern

over the great amount of diabetes cases on Aruba, which is one of the causes for kidney failure. He acknowledged that it is quite a challenge for many diabetics to take care of their bodies as they should so that they can have a better quality of life.

While it is possible for diabetics to prevent the negative aspects of diabetes, still about 95% of diabetic patients result in having to get dialysis. This is sad, because most of the cases could have been prevented if the patient had maintained the proper weight, ate healthy and kept active, which should include about 200 minutes of exercise per week.

Monet Jones was praised for her excellent contribution with her new book. Her book will definitely contribute to the well being of patients suffering from kidney problems.

Foundation for Women in Difficulty:

Focusing on emotional and psychological violence



ORANJESTAD -- The definition of emotional and psychological violence is: any behavior of an individual which affects another individual through the use of power. This includes verbal and non-verbal abuse which eventually undermines the self-esteem and independence of the victim. Anyone who suffers this type of abuse for an extended time loses their sense of value and self confidence and begins to think that they are useless.

Emotional violence becomes part of an abusive relationship between adults as well as in the abuse of children.

These usually go together in situations of domestic violence. Emotional violence can have a long term effect on the life of a person, particularly in the case of child abuse.

What are the signs and symptoms of emotional violence?

Contrary to the symptoms of physical violence (black eyes, bites, broken bones, etc.) the symptoms of emotional violence in most cases are not

recognizable; or may be considered as "normal." The effects of emotional violence on the health of the victim may have consequences for a very long time.

Here are a few of the effects of emotional violence:

- depression
- isolation
- low self-esteem
- fear
- growing anxiety
- feelings of guilt
- shame
- nervousness
- lack of confidence in others
- pessimism
- refusal to socialize with others
- hiding one's face
- lying
- aggressiveness
- substance abuse
- suicidal thoughts

Continued on page 5

Regional push for European Cruise Market



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados -- The Caribbean region has set its sights on making greater inroads into the European cruise market as a record 12 destinations and the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) come together for the Seatrade Med Convention in Marseille, November 27-29, 2012.

With the Caribbean facing increased competition from other global cruising regions and a challenging marketplace, the destinations view the growing European market as an opportunity to extend their reach and drive new business to their sectors. As they look to tap into this segment, several seek to position themselves as viable homeport options for these cruise lines.

Capitalizing on homeporting opportunities is just one of the objectives of the grouping who will collectively exhibit under the banner, the Caribbean Village. In showcasing the Caribbean region to the more than two dozen leading cruise brands attending the

conference, the focus will be to highlight new initiatives, itinerary options, product upgrades and infrastructural developments.

The contingent will include public and private sector entities and tourism officials from Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Martinique, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago. *Cont on pg 4*

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A ton of cocaine...

Continued from page 1

Members of the Bear's crew took personal pride in the bust, as with many the cutter has been involved with.

"It's incredibly rewarding," said Petty Officer Chris Thompson. "It's amazing. I've been doing this since I was 19 years old, and I don't plan to do anything else for the rest of my life."

Unfortunately, the smugglers' go-fast was faster than the Dutch Navy's fast frigate. The bad guys got away.

Still, the accomplishment was considerable, according to the Bear's captain.

"When you see \$22 million worth of drugs come back, with or without criminals, that's \$22 million less in weapons, \$22 million less in cash flow, that's \$22 million less in nefarious activities," said Commander David Ramassini said.

Over the last year, the Coast Guard, alone, has seized nearly 40 tons of cocaine. That's more than was seized by all land-based law enforcement agencies combined.

Aruba's marine environment showcased in new commemorative stamps from Post Aruba



"Underwater Exploration" by noted artist Stan Kuiperi has just been issued by the Philately Department of Post Aruba. These beautiful stamps, which depict various corals, colorful tropical fish and Aruba's famous shipwrecks, are available at the Philately desk in the main branch of Post Aruba in Oranjestad and their Palm Beach Plaza branch.

Stan Kuiperi is an artist of international renown and teacher, as well as director of a cultural program by the Aruban government focused on bringing arts into the communities. His work is highly coveted. The stamps have an

individual value of 1 Aruban florin, a full first issue is ten stamps. Because this is a much larger collection than usual, most issues are four to six stamps, Aruba post has issued two commemorative first-day ensembles with five stamps, envelope and cancellation stamp. Ensembles sell for \$10.

The Palm Beach Plaza branch of Post Aruba is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00AM until 6:00PM, non-stop and the Philately Desk in Oranjestad is open from 7:30 AM until noon and from 1:00 PM until 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Brightly colored, whimsical



Under the sea by Stan Kuiperi ensemble

holiday stamps from artist Stephanie Croes are also available from Post Aruba to enhance annual Christmas card mailings. There will one more

commemorative issue before the end of the year, the collection "Orchids" by well known artists Angiolina Henriquez.

Rosalie Klein

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Happy 20th Anniversary



James and Theresa, from Massachusetts, have been coming back to Aruba every year since their wedding/ honeymoon, November of 1992, the year they also fell in love with the island so much that they bought time share at La Cabana, so they would always have their home away from home.

Tuesday afternoon, James, Theresa and their son Jerry, accompanied by James' mother and step father, Lois and Sam, dressed in matching outfits for this special occasion, were met by Officiant Diane Keijzer in the lobby, and all walked across the street to the beautiful Eagle beach for a memorable, personalized 20th Anniversary renewal of vows ceremony just before sunset.

As they stood there with a seasoned love which had been strengthened through the test of time, they were still filled with hope, commitment and love, a wonderful way to mark the passage of time in a successful marriage.

Congratulations, and we look forward to seeing you here back home next year.

by Diane Keijzer



Aruba welcomes 'Mein Schiff I'

Recently, Aruba welcomed the cruise ship 'Mein Schiff I' during its first call to the island. The ship moored in our harbor with no less than 1868 passengers from Germany and other German speaking countries.

The ship - formerly known as Celebrity Galaxy from Celebrity Cruises - weighs a staggering 77,713 tons and is an impressive 866 feet long. This majestic vessel was launched on its inaugural voyage in December of 1996. The ship was renamed MV Mein Schiff (English: My Ship) on 15 May 2009. The ship, while still the Galaxy, was the setting of BBC television's docu-soap "The Cruise," which made British performer Jane McDonald famous.

To commemorate this special event, the Aruba Tourism Authority held a small ceremony on board the 'Mein Schiff I' where plaques and gifts exchanged hands. Cruise & Niche Market Manager of ATA Gloria Vega, handed Captain Remko Fehr a plaque and a beautiful coffee table picture book of Aruba photographs, in name of the Government and the people of Aruba.

Also present at the event were some 'Mein Schiff I' crew members and other invited guests, among others S.E.L. Maduro & Sons General Manager Hans van Esveld,



Shipping Manager Graceo Dunlock, Aruba Ports Authority Head of Security Ronnie Angela and ATA Visitor Care Liaison Marouska Heyliger.

After the ceremony, Captain Fehr gave all present a tour of the ship to show them the various amenities and ven-

ues on board, including the restaurants, theatre, casino and spacious spa. Afterwards, the guests enjoyed a scrumptious buffet in the restaurant.

Mein Schiff I has three more port calls planned before the end of the year and will surely return next year.

Regional push for European Cruise Market

Continued from page 2

With the call for greater regional collaboration in relation to the cruise tourism sector, the group cites an expanded vision for future partnership. It is in a show of support for this regional thrust that the CTO has partnered with these destinations for this year's event and will sponsor the industry reception "A Taste of the Tropics".

The cruise industry is extremely important to the Caribbean and has provided a

critical value-based sector to our overall tourism product mix," said Hugh Riley, the CTO's secretary general. "The CTO is happy to see member countries continuing to work together under the Caribbean Village banner because we believe if Caribbean destinations work more closely together, we will increase revenue per passenger, and grow the economic impact of cruising for our region."

"There has been a signifi-

cant shift in terms of our approach to the industry as we recognize that our traditional models are less effective in today's business climate especially in light of successful joint marketing initiatives by cruising regions such as the Baltic and Mediterranean," according to business development consultant for the group, Julie-Anne Burrowes. "Caribbean destinations have to partner more in order to remain relevant."

Department of Labor Progress issues news bulletin

ORANJESTAD -- The Department of Foreign Admissions at DPL has recently issued a bulletin informing the public and employers in particular on the various procedures for submitting petitions and receiving advice on foreign employee applications.

The new management policy places strict priority on employing local persons. Every effort must be taken to put Arubans to work and employers must demonstrate exactly how they have worked to that end. Only after this can be proven and, if there was no success, a petition for a foreign worker may be submitted.

The petition for a foreign employee must be documented with different pertinent information that is required by DPL, after which the employer will receive advice which may be positive or negative.

In the event the advice is positive, the employer may continue the process at DIMAS for a foreign worker. In the event the advice is negative, the employer may submit a petition for a re-evaluation of the petition. This request for re-evaluation must be submitted within 6 weeks after receiving the negative advice.

Upon receiving the request for re-evaluation, DPL will repeat the same steps to ascertain whether there is indeed and in fact no local person for the job in question. This re-evaluation process is done only once after which no further advice will be forthcoming from DPL.

For specific information on exactly how the process works, please consult DPL directly, or visit their website at www.dpl.aw. Par. 6.8 outlines all the information needed for the re-evaluation procedure.

DPL encourages all employers to familiar themselves with the information on their website and/or from their helpdesk at their offices to avoid any unnecessary inconveniences and frustrations. They can also be reached by telephone 521-5555.

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Focusing on emotional and psychological violence

Continued from page 2

Anyone who has suffered emotional violence for an extended time becomes afraid to be alone. Or they feel that no one likes them or wants to be with them. This results in the person not seeing any solution and remains in the abusive relationship; with the consequence that the emotional violence continues.

Domestic violence and violence against women is a worldwide problem and deserves our attention. The

United Nations on December 17, 1999 decreed November 25th as International Day for eliminating violence against women.

The local Fundacion pa Hende Muhe Den Dificultad (FHMD) was founded on November 24 because this foundation is intent on focusing on the problem of violence against women and on domestic violence. To help someone with this kind of problem, you can turn to the

offices of the Foundation in the Primavera 1-B and receive consultation from a social worker.

It remains very difficult to get out of an abusive relationship. Women often live with the hope that their husband or partner will change. They are afraid of what may happen if their partner finds out that they are planning to leave. Whatever your situation may be, YOU do not deserve to continue living this

way...with fear. Get help! Call 583-5400.

If you're in an abusive relationship or know of someone who is: get help!

The best way to prevent emotional violence is for you to be aware of the situation and understand your rights and obligations. There is absolutely no reason for you to remain trapped in an abusive relationship.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mass car crash in Texas leaves 2 dead

Over the Thanksgiving holiday 2012, 140 vehicles in Texas collided, leaving two individuals dead and more than 80 people injured.



The mass car crash happened in Southeast Texas, tragically disrupting the lives of many. Trucks ended up twisted on top of each other and authorities rushed to help survivors from the wreckage.



The collision happened in extremely foggy conditions at about 8:45 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Cars spun out of control, hitting each other on Interstate 10 southwest of Beaumont. A man and woman died at the scene in a Chevy Suburban SUV.



Israel firms up security as Gaza truce takes hold

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel restricted Palestinian access to Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque compound yesterday and kept a tight grip on security as a first death tested a hard-won truce ending fighting in and around Gaza.

Tensions on the streets of annexed Arab east Jerusalem remained high a day after angry demonstrators stormed an Israeli police station in a bid to secure the release of a Palestinian woman who tried to stab a border guard.

The army reported arresting 28 suspected West Bank militants -- including five members of Hamas -- in the wake of a security sweep on Thursday in which 55 "terror operatives" were detained.

Israel decided on further precaution by barring Palestinians under the age of 40 from accessing the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem -- Islam's third holiest site -- which is also revered by Jews.

The mosque compound has been the focus of past clashes, and Israel sought to prevent any repetition that could jeopardise the truce ending eight days of fighting in which 166 Palestinians and six Israelis died.

The ceasefire was holding firmly despite a dozen rockets being fired at Israel from Gaza in the first post-truce hours and a warning from Netanyahu that he would resume the offensive if need be.

The Palestinians also reported their first post-conflict casualty at the hands of Israeli soldiers who reportedly opened fire on a group of farmers near the Gaza border yesterday.

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US urges calm, dialogue in Egypt

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States said yesterday that the assumption of sweeping powers by Egypt's President Mohamed Morsi was a matter of concern, amid a new round of protests in the country.

"The decisions and declarations announced on November 22 raise concerns for many Egyptians and for the international community," said State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland, in a statement.

"One of the aspirations of the revolution was to ensure that power would not be overly concentrated in the hands of any one person or institution," she said, referring to the uprising that toppled veteran ruler Hosni Mubarak.

Nuland warned that Egypt's "constitutional vacuum ... can only be resolved by the adoption of a constitution that includes checks and balances, and respects fundamental freedoms, individual rights, and the rule of law consistent with Egypt's international commitments."

"We call for calm and encourage all parties to work to-

gether and call for all Egyptians to resolve their differences over these important issues peacefully and through democratic dialogue," she added.

On Thursday, Morsi undercut a hostile judiciary that had been considering whether to scrap an Islamist-led panel drawing up a new constitution, stripping judges of the right to rule on the case or to challenge his decrees.

The decision effectively placed Morsi's presidency above judicial oversight until a new constitution is ratified.

Amid fears of a return to the authoritarian rule Egyptians suffered under Mubarak, protesters held rival rallies and attacked Muslim Brotherhood offices in several cities, including in Alexandria on the Mediterranean.

Morsi meanwhile insisted Egypt was on the path to "freedom and democracy."

"Political stability, social stability and economic stability are what I want and that is what I am working for," he told an Islamist rally outside the presidential palace.

Russia isolates Pussy Riot member from fellow inmates

MOSCOW (AFP) - One of the jailed members of Russia's punk band Pussy Riot has been transferred to solitary confinement after complaining of poor relations with other inmates, officials said yesterday.

Maria Alyokhina, 24, who is serving a two-year sentence for the group's anti-Vladimir Putin performance in Russia's main Orthodox Cathedral, was moved to a "safe" place in the prison camp in the Perm region, an official with the regional prison service told AFP.

She will remain isolated from other inmates for three months unless she requests to be moved back, the prison official said.



Pussy Riot members Maria Alyokhina (l.), Yekaterina Samutsevich (c.) and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova (r.)

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FARC rebels ask US to pardon leader as peace talks restart

HAVANA (AFP) - Colombia's leftist FARC rebels yesterday asked the US president to pardon one of their leaders serving a 60-year sentence in a US supermax prison to allow him to participate in peace talks underway in Havana.

Rebels have repeatedly asked President Barack Obama to show leniency to Simon Trinidad, a FARC commander convicted of kidnapping three Americans in Colombia, to allow him to take up his role on the negotiating team.

"We are calling on the president of the United States, in using his power to pardon, to enable Simon Trinidad, FARC peace delegate, to be physically present at the talks in Havana," FARC commander Ricardo Tellez said.

"The United States would make an immense contribution to peace in Colombia with this humanitarian gesture," he added, reading from a statement.

Tellez made the call before yesterday's negotiating session with the government began -- after a scheduled break on Thursday -- in talks that have raised hopes of an end to Latin America's longest-running conflict.

The delegations are to meet through the weekend, before another break on Monday, intended to allow the two sides to work separately.

The final session of this round of the high-stakes talks, which follows the formal launch in Oslo on October 18, is then set for Tuesday through Thursday.

The last bid to forge a peaceful resolution ended in failure a decade ago.

Thousands of civilians flee rebel advance in DR Congo

SAKE, DR Congo (AFP) - Thousands of civilians yesterday fled a rebel advance in eastern DR Congo as regional leaders prepared a summit on the crisis which the UN said had blocked access to camps sheltering tens of thousands of displaced people.

The M23 rebel group, army mutineers who took the regional capital Goma on Tuesday

and the key town of Sake the next day, appeared to halt their rampant advance just south of Sake after battles with government forces and an allied local militia, a United Nations source told AFP.

Thousands of people were fleeing Sake heading east toward Goma, and the local head of a relief agency reported numerous casualties.

UN experts have accused Rwanda and Uganda of backing the M23 -- a charge both countries deny -- and the guerrillas' escalating assault has raised fears of wider conflict erupting in the chronically unstable region.

The army has proved unable to contain the rebellion, despite being backed by a massive UN peacekeeping opera-

tion that deployed attack helicopters in a bid to protect civilians from the M23's advance.

UN peacekeeping spokesman Kieran Dwyer said the UN was considering using drones for the first time to monitor the fighting.

Diplomats said peacekeeping chiefs had been in contact with the governments of DR Congo and of Rwanda about

the sensitive move, which could set a precedent that would worry other UN members.

The UN is also considering bringing in extra troops for its 17,500-strong peacekeeping operation and redeploying its current force. UN leader Ban Ki-moon is to recommend options to the UN Security Council soon.

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Health & Living**New Int'l. regulation forthcoming
on diseases in the region**

-- A few weeks ago Aruba was host to the International Health Regulation Conference. Together with Holland, there were representatives from St. Maarten, Curacao and the Windward Islands.

The primary objective of the conference was to jointly come up with an international law needed to cover international health regulations. They also aimed at finding a way to put this law into practice on the local as well as on the regional level.

The objective of these regulations is to ensure that should there be an epidemic or if patients are dying, everything must be attended locally and properly registered. The second aspect is to decide how to register this in our region, so

that there is an alert and whether this is transmissible or not. This will have to be done within a lapse of 48 hours with



all vigilance systems involved. The World Health Organization and the Pan American

Health Organization will have to be alerted so that they can monitor Aruba as well as the region.

These alerts entail diseases such as Dengue, Whooping Cough, and food contamination. The goal will be to be able to inform all instances outside of Aruba within 48 hours so that together we can take responsibility for implementing measures to avoid the spread of the disease and so avoid an epidemic.

According to the Minister of Public Health, the new law has to do with an international regulation and all the processes to

go with it between the different countries. Aruba, he stated has to deal with this as a Public Health matter. The Minister also reported that one of the conclusions arrived at during the conference is that every country will have a contact person who will communicate directly with Holland and international authorities in the event of an incidence. We will no longer use the old "focal point" system in one island, but that every island will have its own "focal point."

**China orders hospitals to
treat HIV/AIDS patients**

BEIJING(AFP) - China has banned health institutions from withholding care to people with HIV/AIDS after an outcry over a cancer patient with the disease who was denied treatment.

The Ministry of Health issued a memo ordering authorities to take steps to guarantee the right to medical treatment for people with the disease, according to the official Xinhua news agency.

The move comes after a 25-year-old lung cancer patient in Tianjin, a major port city southeast of Beijing, was recently denied care after his status as an HIV/AIDS was detected, Xinhua said.

The patient, identified by the pseudonym Xiaofeng, was later able to get surgery at another location after concealing his condition, the state-run China Daily reported.

The man's plight caused Vice Premier Li Keqiang -- who last week took over the number two position in the ruling Communist Party's top decision-making body, and is tipped to become premier in March -- to speak out on the issue.

Li called for proper medical treatment for people with the disease after he learned of the man's plight, China Daily said.

There were an estimated 780,000 people with HIV/AIDS in China at the end of last year, according to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, out of the country's total population of about 1.3 billion.

Chinese authorities have been credited with increasing access to HIV/AIDS drugs for patients, though widespread discrimination is still a problem.

A cup of mint tea

--Mint tea is one of the most popular herbal infusions. It's refreshing, the flavor is clean and sweet, and it almost feels good to drink after a heavy meal. Mint tea is great on its own, or is often blended with other herbs or green tea leaves for its distinctive pleasing aroma and taste. Whether you prefer the strong menthol of peppermint, or the more mild effect of spearmint, either way you are doing something good for your body drinking a cup of mint tea. Mint is one of the best herbs for the digestive system. It relaxes the stomach muscles, combats gas, and stimulates the secretion of digestive juices. It has anti-microbial properties, helping to keep your system clean of bad bacteria. It is also an anti-spasmodic, anti-catarrahal, analgesic and nervine.



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- 1 Floor**
Menswear, boyswear and more
- 2 Floor**
Ladies, girls and baby wear
- 3 Floor**
Textile & notions, Article for kitchen, Bath and bedroom and more.
- 4 Floor**
Office, Luggages and sporting gear.
Coming soon Cafeteria!



Samsonite

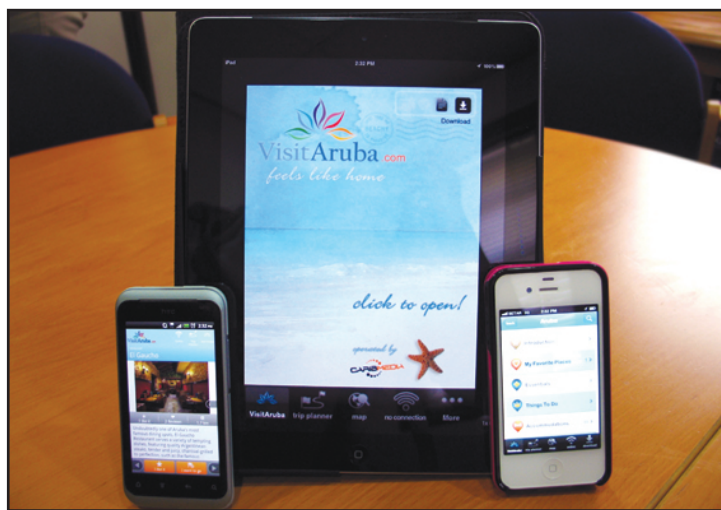
Best Brands
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Sci-Tech

Visit Aruba launches free Mobile App for Android and iPhone



--Local web development company CaribMedia has launched the Visit Aruba Guide mobile app as the official app for the popular VisitAruba.com website. The Visit Aruba Guide is a comprehensive travel guide for Aruba compiled by VisitAruba.com including helpful information visitors can use prior to their trip as well as while they are in Aruba. The app is FREE to download for both iOS and Android and includes unlimited updates, offline maps and GPS navigation, an augmented reality viewer and a trip planner. For local companies to be included in the app is completely free as a client of VisitAruba.com.

"Any VisitAruba.com client is listed in the app completely for free. For us it was very important to recognize the loyalty of our clients over the years, and in conjunction with our 15th year in operation this was something we wanted to give back to our loyal customers," said Daphne Lejuez, CaribMedia's creative Director. "We are very thankful to the entire CaribMedia team who worked very hard to make this app a reality and we are sure it will be very successful and helpful to anyone who uses it." she con-

tinued to say.

CaribMedia Managing Director Mark Cesareo men-



Otmar Manuela, Merel Proost, Daphne Lejuez, Mark Cesareo

tioned that "We are very happy to have developed the app in conjunction with European company, Tripwolf GmbH that has developed travel guides for more than 700 destinations worldwide, and has had more than 2 million app downloads to date. Tripwolf is also the winner of the 2012 World Summit Award for Mobile." Otmar Manuela, CaribMedia's Senior programmer who headed the project along with the Tripwolf team, mentioned that "One of my goals in the project was to make sure that

the app is completely integrated with the VisitAruba.com website making it possible for daily updates and fresh content on a daily basis, and we have achieved that successfully."

The app is fully usable offline (without roaming) and app users can choose which information they want to be available offline. This means that while out and about, users do not have to have any data connection at all to view content, view maps and find points of interest in Aruba, saving on data transfer costs while in Aruba.

The Visit Aruba app features information on accommodations, car rentals, restaurants

and things to do, Special Deals, VisitAruba Plus discount card offers conveniently listed in the app and always up to date, daily News releases and regularly updated Events. Rona Coster's weekly Bati Bleki column is also featured in the app, and for people looking for their dream home in Aruba the app also contains listings from ArubaRealEstate.com.

The Visit Aruba app is available in the App store and Google Play by simply doing a search for "Visit Aruba".

Google enters debate on UN Internet control



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Google has jumped into the debate over a UN telecom gathering set to review regulations affecting the Internet, claiming it is "the wrong place" to make decisions about the future of the Web.

In a posting on its "take action" blog this week, Google said the December gathering of the UN's International Telecommunications Union comes amid "a growing backlash on Internet freedom."

The ITU's World Conference on International Communications opening next month in Dubai will update global telecom rules for the first time since 1988, and some countries see this as an opportunity to set up new rules for the Internet.

US officials and lawmakers, along with a number of Internet activists, have expressed concern that proposals from China, Russia and other nations could threaten the open model of the Internet by giving

the UN agency a greater role.

Google said some proposed treaty changes "could increase censorship and threaten innovation" and others "would require services like YouTube, Facebook, and Skype to pay new tolls in order to reach people across borders. This could limit access to information -- particularly in emerging markets."

Google's comments backed the US position, which is that the non-government "multi-stakeholder" system of the Internet should remain in place.

"Governments alone should not determine the future of the Internet," the Google blog said. The billions of people around the globe that use the Internet, and the experts that build and maintain it, should be included.

The Google response comes a week after Russia submitted its proposal to the ITU, provoking strong reactions from some online activists.

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COMICS

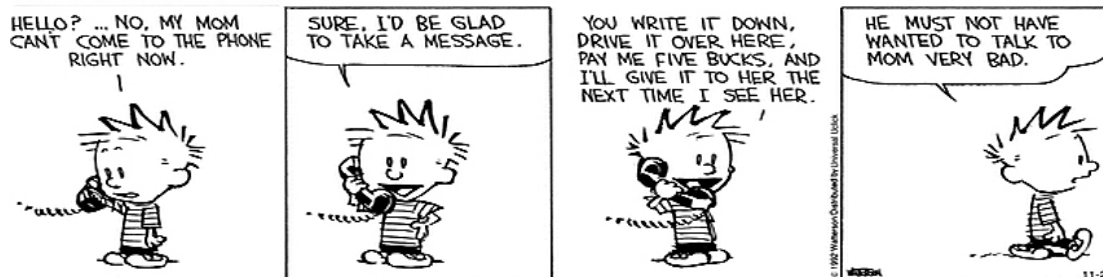
PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



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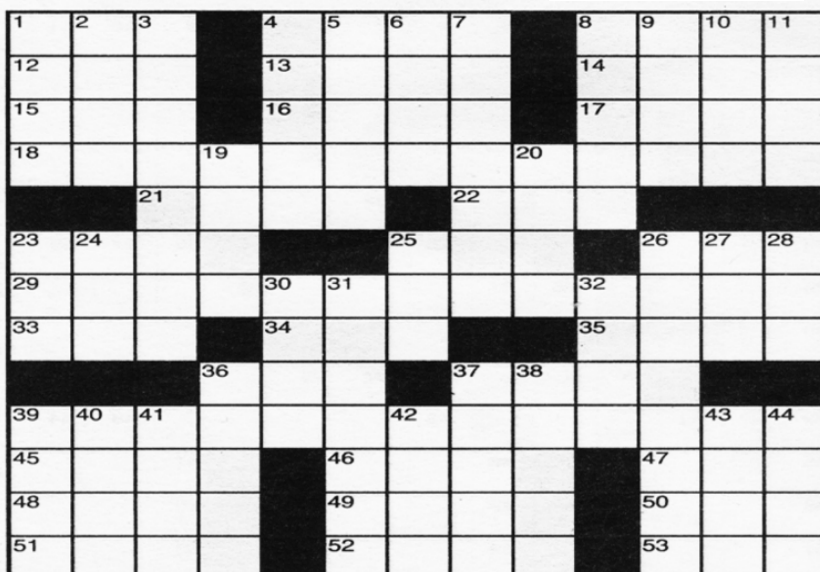
FREEBIE FEATURE

ACROSS

1. Mushroom part
4. "Purple ____" (Hendrix classic)
8. Ran, as colors
12. That girl
13. Ireland, to Thomas Campbell
14. ____ avis
15. Temper
16. Social reformer Lucretia
17. Latin I word
18. Tender-hearted
21. Skye of "Gas Food Lodging"
22. Boob-tubes
23. Astringent
25. Brown brew
26. Center of commerce
29. Like some hotels' continental breakfasts
33. Pluralizer
34. French painter Jean
35. Robinson of "The Weakest Link"
36. Julian Lennon's stepmother
37. Epic poet
39. Friendly
45. ____ vera
46. Much
47. Process or progress ending

DOWN

1. Like many a "Vogue" reader
2. Space or station start
3. Payments to Lloyd's
4. Charles Atlas, for one
5. Revolted
6. Breakouts, slangily
7. Designate
8. Grain husks
9. Tibetan priest
10. QED part
11. Rendezvous
19. Splendid display
20. Stove chamber
23. Star pilot
24. ____ Lobos ("La Bamba" group)
25. Bandstand box
26. Distributed announcement
27. Ornamental vase
28. "Ciao!"
30. Turner of films
31. Weapon-making period
32. "Scarlett" locale
36. Debuts
37. T. ____ Pickens (corporate raider)
38. Fattens the pot
39. Quitter's contraction
40. Toast topping
41. Debatable
42. "____ a song go..."
43. Strong emotion
44. Home of Phillips U.



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Alcoholism
and Drug Addiction
Anonymity guaranteed
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Telephone Helpline
583-1190
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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE
Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

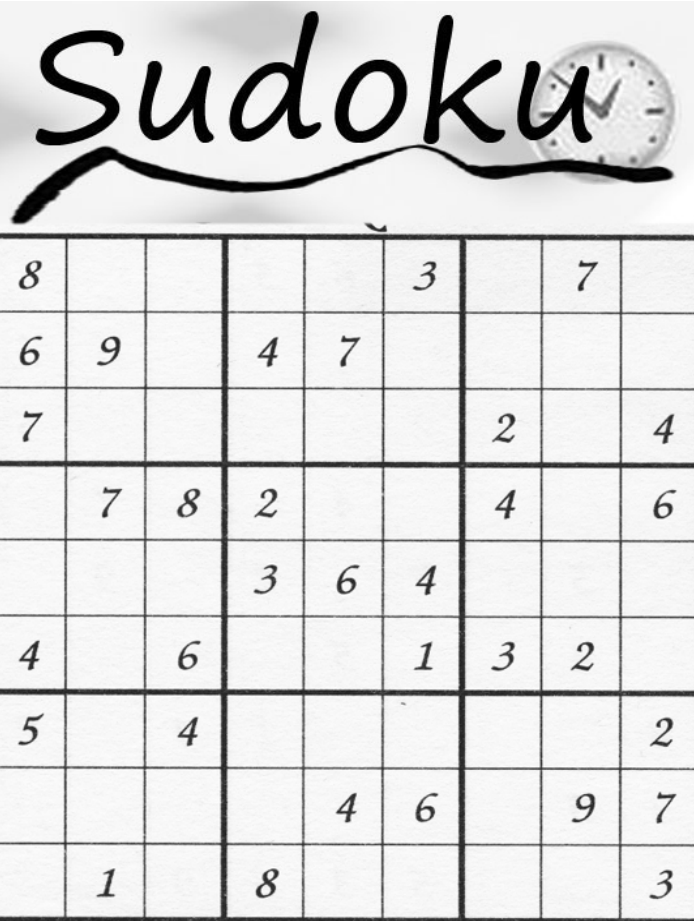
Important
Telephone
Numbers

HOSPITAL
Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. 587-4300

EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

TAXI
C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
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582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

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SOLUTION

8	9	5	2	8	1	6
4	6	5	9	7	1	3
7	8	1	4	6	9	5
6	7	1	8	4	9	5
8	5	4	7	9	6	2
9	1	7	6	5	2	8
4	9	2	8	6	5	1
1	3	8	2	4	7	9
5	2	6	1	9	7	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as 11//2312	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britain	GBP	2.77	2.82	2.88
Switzerland	CHF	190.64	191.36	192.16
Netherlands	EUR	227.84	229.92	232.23
Sweden	SEK	25.79	26.51	27.31
Denmark	DKK	29.86	30.58	31.38
Norway	NOK	30.41	31.13	31.93
Japan	JPY	214.56	216.51	218.69
(per 10,000)				
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.				

Finance

EU trillion-euro budget summit ends in failure

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Talks on the European Union's trillion-euro budget ended in deadlock yesterday as leaders of the bloc's 27 member states failed to overcome seemingly irreconcilable differences on how to reduce spending.

"There is no agreement," said one official at the Brussels summit.

Tensions between rich and poor states and Britain's demands for austerity in the budget for the seven years from 2014 to 2020 had set the summit on a rocky course from the start.

Britain was cast as the potential chief spoiler at the meeting, with Prime Minister David Cameron threatening to wield his veto unless spending is frozen in real terms, arguing that at a time of austerity at home the EU must also make cuts.

Britain, like many countries across Europe, is responding to economic crisis with major public spending cuts and Cameron argues that at a time of austerity at home the EU must also make deep cuts.

Nearly a year after he angered his European counterparts by vetoing a pact to resolve the eurozone crisis, Cameron was again at odds with them by demanding cuts to the perks enjoyed by so-called "eurocrats" -- the well-paid EU civil servants frequently targeted by the British press.

An EU diplomat said the main obstacle at the summit was Cameron's demand for reductions in the planned trillion-dollar budget, adding that "the most virulent" countries seeking cuts were Britain, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Cameron had vowed to bring down the budget from a proposed 1.047 trillion euros (\$1.347 trillion) to 886 billion euros.

EU President Herman Van Rompuy submitted new proposals yesterday that reintroduced his own earlier figure of 972 billion euros in spending, which comes to just over one percent of the EU's total economic output, the usual benchmark used in Brussels budget talks.

The latest blueprint which negotiators worked from yesterday spread the funds more generously to sensitive envelopes like the "cohesion" funds for regional development, and the Common Agricultural Policy, the farm subsidy program cherished by France that is the budget's biggest single item.

But that was not enough, and EU leaders threw in the towel mid-afternoon.

The first recriminations began to fly, with a British source criticising a lack of preparation by Van Rompuy for the summit, saying it made negotiations more difficult.

So-called cohesion funds -- billions of euros outlayed each year to the EU's newer and poorer entrants in the south and east of the continent so they can catch up with richer neighbours -- were also central to the battle at the Brussels summit.

The funds were defended tooth and nail by the 15 "Friends of Cohesion" nations -- led by Poland and Portugal -- who are net beneficiaries of the EU budget.

The cohesion funds are the second-biggest budget item after CAP payments to farmers and fishermen, which are

US stocks rally on Black Friday sales

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks rallied yesterday on signs that the holiday shopping season was off to a good start, with Walmart calling it the "best ever" Black Friday.

Stocks built on strong opening gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 172.41 points (1.34 percent) at 13,009.30 in closing trade.

The broad-market S&P 500 index advanced 18.03 (1.30 percent) to 1,409.06, while the Nasdaq Composite climbed 40.30 (1.38 percent) to 2,966.85.

another bone of contention.

France is by far the biggest CAP beneficiary, and French President Francois Hollande vowed to fight to keep the prized agricultural subsidies, while denying he was purely defending national interests.

Earlier this week he lashed out at countries which defended budget rebates, the third hot-button issue at the summit.

He did not name any specific countries, but Britain in particular cherishes its budget rebate, which then prime minister Margaret Thatcher obtained in 1984 on the grounds that London was paying too much into the bloc's coffers.

The British rebate was worth 3.6 billion euros last year, and Cameron vowed Thursday that he had no plans to give it up. Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Austria also insisted on keeping their rebates.

The sense of summit crisis was heightened by the failure on Wednesday at a eurozone finance ministers' meeting to unblock bailout funds needed to keep Greece from bankruptcy.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	C	R	E	R	E	A	R	C	E	N
R	U	E	D	O	L	L	A	U	T	E
C	R	O	S	S	B	E	A	M	T	A
	E	P	E	E		P	L	A	T	E
R	A	L	L		S	A	I	C		
A	L	E		M	E	A	G	E	R	L
R	A	F		T	I	T	L	E	O	A
E	N	T	R	A	N	C	E		S	T
	C	A	N	E		L	O	S	E	R
D	E	R	E	K		B	E	E	R	
E	D	O		C	R	O	S	S	B	A
E	N	S		A	I	D	S		I	D
P	A	S		R	A	Y	E		T	O



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944

Court: Italian mobsters received EU farm aid

ROME (AFP) - Italian mafiosi have been pocketing hundreds of thousands of euros from European farm funds for years thanks to a legal loophole, according to rulings from Italy's Court of Auditors reviewed by AFP.

Convicted gangsters and suspects under police surveillance were able to receive Common Agricultural Policy payments of up to 153,000 euros (\$197,000) without triggering more in-depth controls on their criminal history.

"Until two months ago we didn't even have a list of mafiosi" to check against when making payments, said Giancarlo Nanni, director of Agea, the Italian government agency that handles European agriculture funding.

Court rulings demanding that the funds be returned to the state showed that payments of more than two million euros had been made over a period of nearly two decades, including to mafiosi who were in

prison at the time.

Around 1.8 million euros was distributed in Sicily alone, where there were dozens of rulings against "farmers" for illegally obtaining public funds.

Under Italian law, it is illegal for convicted people to receive the funds.

But when the amount is below 153,000 euros anyone can receive the subsidies without an anti-mafia certificate, a special document released by the authorities to show the recipient has not been convicted of mafia crimes.

The recipients also included some world-renowned mafia figures.

Contacted by AFP, the European Commission's representative office in Italy said it was up to European Union member states to handle payments.

"Member states are also obliged to prevent and deal with irregularities and to recover amounts unduly paid," it said in a statement.



AFP photo shows a worker at a cocoa cooperative for wholesale export sorting cocoa beans in Mousadougou, a village on the southern coast of Ivory Coast. Ivory Coast on Tuesday hosted world players in the cocoa business for a conference on how to face up to the challenges posed by soaring demand. The London-based International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) organised what it says is the first World Cocoa Conference to discuss a sustainable future for the industry in the face of growing demand. The conference is of particular interest to Ivory Coast, which is the world's biggest producer of cocoa.

Electronic tracking: new constraint for Saudi women

RIYADH (AFP) - Denied the right to travel without consent from their male guardians and banned from driving, women in Saudi Arabia are now monitored by an electronic system that tracks any cross-border movements.

Since last week, Saudi women's male guardians began receiving text messages on their phones informing them when women under their custody leave the country, even if they are travelling together.

Manal al-Sherif, who became the symbol of a campaign launched last year urging Saudi women to defy a driving ban, began spreading the information on Twitter, after she was alerted by a couple.

The husband, who was travelling with his wife, received a text message from the immigration authorities informing him that his wife had left the international airport in Riyadh.

"The authorities are using technology to monitor women," said columnist Badriya al-Bishr, who criti-



cised the "state of slavery under which women are held" in the ultra-conservative kingdom.

Women are not allowed to leave the kingdom without permission from their male guardian, who must give his consent by signing what is known as the "yellow sheet" at the airport or border.

The move by the Saudi authorities was swiftly condemned on social network Twitter -- a rare bubble of freedom for millions in the kingdom -- with critics mocking the decision.

"Hello Taliban, herewith some tips from the Saudi e-government!" read one post.

"Why don't we just install a microchip into our women to track them around?" joked another.

"If I need an SMS to let me know my wife is leaving Saudi Arabia, then I'm either married to the wrong woman or need a psychiatrist," tweeted Hisham.

"This is technology used to serve backwardness in order to keep women imprisoned," said Bishr, the columnist.

"It would have been better for the government to busy itself with finding a solution for women subjected to domestic violence" than track their movements into and out of the country.

Saudi Arabia applies a strict interpretation of sharia, or Islamic law, and is the only country in the world where women are not allowed to drive.

In June 2011, female activists launched a campaign to defy the ban, with many arrested for doing so and forced to sign a pledge they will never drive again.

No law specifically forbids women in Saudi Arabia from driving, but the interior minister formally banned them after 47 women were arrested and punished after demonstrating in cars in November 1990.

Last year, King Abdullah -- a cautious reformer -- granted women the right to vote and run in the 2015 municipal elections, a historic first for the country.

In January, the 89-year-old monarch appointed Sheikh Abdullatif Abdel Aziz al-Sheikh, a moderate, to head the notorious religious police commission, which enforces the kingdom's severe version of sharia law.

Following his appointment, Sheikh banned members of the commission from harassing Saudi women over their behaviour and attire, raising hopes a more lenient force will ease draconian social constraints in the country.

Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced

there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The "Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9; pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15. Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can ex-



Threesome, takes care of the entertainment

breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making patrons feel welcome. "If somebody really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If

pect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, "Threesome." There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose, players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.

Black Friday shopping rush



-- The annual US shopping extravaganza of Black Friday started early this year with hundreds of stores opening late on Thursday night to offer their heavily discounted wares, kicking off the Christmas trading period. The sales also stretched across the Atlantic, with Apple, Currys, PC World, Asda and Amazon offering discounts to coincide with the US holiday. However, the organisation believes the number of shoppers drawn in by the week-end-long sales could be down -- with 147 million shoppers, compared with 152 million a year earlier. Stores have taken preventive measures in hopes of shoppers and tempers at ease, where safety is the main concern for everyone involved.

Cool Casino...where those in the know go to play!



The great perks of gaming at Cool Casino in the Palm Beach has created a dedicated clientele; ask them what they like about the cozy casino, and they don't know where to start! The free slot tournaments every Sunday? Major pay-offs in their weekly Blackjack tournaments every Tuesday and Friday? Ladies' night every Wednesday with entertainment from great local bands? Or perhaps just the terrific benefits of being "One Cool Member" which earns players bonus points towards additional activities, free dinners, day passes at the Riu Resort, credit for play, or best of all: hard, cool cash! The casino opens daily at 10:00 AM and on Saturdays and Sundays, all are greeted with an early

morning "Kaffie Klatch" and triple points when using their membership cards.

Cool Casino is a great place to learn to understand



such table games as Craps and Roulette, as they offer free instructions and minimums for beginners with which anyone can have fun and feel very comfortable. High-stakes tables and a major weekly

blackjack tournament will keep veteran high-rollers happy, as well as periodic special events that attract an international crowd; stop by and check their schedule.

Add to all this free drinks while testing the slots or trying your hand at the tables, and the opportunity to enjoy exclusive pay-per-view major sporting events at one of their dozens of plasma screens, and you can understand why loyal patrons find Cool Casino THE fun place to play. Slot machines are open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 AM daily, and gaming tables open at 5:00 PM; ask for their schedule of special events and bonuses, as there are so many choose from, but every day offers something to get the adrenaline flowing!



Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Keshi Yena with plantains and vegetables

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses for Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

SPORTS

'Macho' Camacho family won't give up hope

SAN JUAN (AFP) - Hours after doctors declared three-time world champion Hector "Macho" Camacho brain dead after being gunned down in a car, the fallen fighter's son said they would keep him on life support.

"It's up to God," Hector Camacho junior, known as "Machito" said of the family's refusal to turn off his ventilator, despite medical pessimism.

Camacho, originally from Puerto Rico, was one of the most colorful boxers of the 1980s, winning world titles at super lightweight, lightweight and light welterweight.

With a career record of 79-6-3 with 38 knockouts, he took

on all comers, including big names Oscar De La Hoya, Julio Cesar Chavez, Sugar Ray Leonard, Felix Trinidad, Ray Mancini and Greg Haugen.

Some press reports suggested the family would wait at least two days before disconnecting the fighter's life support, with Camacho's aunt, Aida Camacho, saying they were awaiting the arrival of three of his children: 22-year-old Justin, 19-year-old Christian and 14-year-old Taylor.

Puerto Rico's secretary of recreation and sport, Henry Neumann, meanwhile, has offered to help the family arrange funeral services if required.

Football: Menezes sacked as Brazil coach

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Mano Menezes was sensationally sacked as Brazil coach on Friday, dealing a hammer blow to the hosts of the 2014 World Cup, local media reported.

Menezes, 50, took over from Dunga following the team's elimination in the quarter-finals of the 2010 World Cup finals.

But he had come under intense pressure after the five-time world champions' failure at the 2011 Copa America, where they lost in the last-eight to Paraguay, and at the Olympic Games in London this summer.

Menezes, who was axed after a meeting with the Brazilian Football Confedera-

tion (CBF) president Jose Maria Marin, oversaw 20 wins in his time at the helm, six draws and five defeats.

His job had been on the line since Brazil's latest attempt to win Olympic gold ended in humiliation after a lacklustre 2-1 loss to underdogs Mexico at Wembley in August.

Media speculation has already linked former Seleccion boss Luis Felipe Scolari with a return to the hot-seat after he guided Brazil to World Cup glory in 2002.

Menezes said he believed that the Olympic loss could have been used to inspire Brazil to a sixth World Cup on home soil in 2014.

Football: Arsenal agree £150m Emirates sponsorship deal

LONDON (AFP) - Arsenal have agreed a £150 million (\$239 million, 185 million euros) extension of their shirt sponsorship agreement with Emirates Airlines, the club announced on Friday.

The lucrative new contract, which runs until the end of the 2018-19 season, will be worth £30 million a year to Arsenal.

"This agreement is a testimony to Arsenal's approach and to the capabilities we have developed in recent years, as well as the strength of our partnership with Emirates," said chief executive Ivan Gazidis.

"The original deal with Emirates was a key facilitator

of our move from Highbury (Arsenal's former stadium) and this next phase of our relationship will be just as critical to keep us at the top of the game in England and Europe."

Under the terms of the deal, the Emirati company will continue to hold naming rights for Arsenal's north London stadium until 2028.

Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, the chairman and chief executive of Emirates Airline and Group, said: "Arsenal's strong appeal around the globe and ambitious approach to the game parallel our own approach to business, making them a valuable partner for our brand."


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Golf: McIlroy, Donald vie for Dubai title

DUBAI (AFP) - The world's top two ranked players Rory McIlroy and Luke Donald were involved in a three-way tie at the top of the leaderboard at the halfway stage of the \$8million DP World Tour Championship on Friday.

At the Earth course of Jumeirah Golf Estates, world number one McIlroy and number-two ranked Donald were joined at 11-under par 133 by Scotland's world No189 Marc Warren.

McIlroy (67) was unable to take sole possession of the lead when he failed to make a birdie on the final hole, which was played from the forward tee and reachable in two, while Donald (68) joined him and Warren (67) on top with a textbook birdie on the par-5 hole.

The leading trio were one shot ahead of South African duo of world number six Louis Oosthuizen (67) and Branden Grace (65).

Another South African, 2011 Masters champion Charl Schwartzel (67) and Scotsman Richie Ramsay (68) were tied sixth at nine-under par 135.

The round of the day, however, belonged to Sergio Garcia.

The Spaniard matched the course record of eight-under par 64, but that included a triple bogey, two bogeys, two eagles and nine birdies. He did not make a single par on the

back nine.

After making his triple on the 16th hole, where he dumped his eight-iron second shot from the middle of the fairway into the water, the world No22, who is making a comeback after a seven-week layoff because of an eye sur-

gery, birdied the 17th and eagled the last to climb up to seven-under par for the tournament.

The \$8 million tournament is the season-ending championship on the European Tour and only the top-60 players in the Money List qualify for it.



PARIS (AFP) - FIFA have turned down a request from Ivorian striker Didier Drogba to be allowed to leave Chinese club Shanghai Shenhua on loan to a European club ahead of the transfer window. Drogba, who has been linked with a short-term move back to former club Chelsea before the start of the Chinese league in a bid to build fitness for the African Nations Cup in January, had put in a request to the world governing body. FIFA said in a statement: "We can confirm that the player Didier Drogba submitted a request for authorisation to be registered outside an open registration period for a club on a loan basis. "FIFA has informed him about the relevant regulations... that players may only be registered during one of the two annual registration periods fixed by the relevant association." FIFA said the only exception was when a player's contract expired outside a transfer window. Drogba is under contract with the Chinese club until 2015.



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NFL: Texans tame Lions, Pats pound Jets

DETROIT, Michigan (AFP) - The Houston Texans handed Detroit another Thanksgiving holiday NFL defeat Thursday, with a costly mistake by Lions coach Jim Schwartz helping seal his team's fate.

On the heels of Houston's overtime victory over Jacksonville on Sunday, the Texans emerged with a 34-31 overtime triumph over the Lions courtesy of Shayne Graham's 32-yard field goal with 2:21 remaining in the extra period.

Graham's game-winner atoned for a 51-yard miss earlier in the extra period.

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, it didn't take long for the New England Patriots to turn their game against the



Wide receiver Julian Edelman #11 of the New England Patriots eludes LaRon Landry #30 of the New York Jets after making a catch and scores a touchdown

New York Jets into a blowout. Shane Vereen's 83-yard touchdown reception in the second quarter was followed by fumble recoveries for touchdowns by Steve Gregory and Julian Edelman -- all in the space of an astonishing 52 seconds -- opening the door for

the Patriots' 49-19 triumph over their division foes.

Four days after a victory in St. Louis, the Jets were undone by turnovers. They had four in the first half and finished with five for the entire game.

Washington's rookie quarterback Robert Griffin III excelled in his first Thanksgiving game, throwing for 311 yards and four touchdowns in Dallas in a 38-31 victory over NFC East division rivals the Cowboys.

The Redskins snapped a three-game losing streak against the Cowboys.

Dallas signal-caller Tony Romo threw for 441 yards on 37-of-62 passing with three touchdowns and two interceptions in the defeat. He had been unbeaten in five prior Thanksgiving Day starts.



Jarvis Jenkins #99 of the Washington Redskins knocks Tony Romo #9 of the Dallas Cowboys to the turf on Thanksgiving Day

Opening Ceremonies ... continued from page 16



Minister Visser officially opens the games



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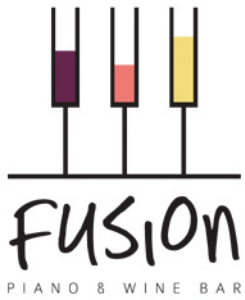
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Opening Ceremonies of the WTF World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships



Minister Visser and WTF President with Aruba team



-- Over 300 attending athletes, referees, judges and event organizers were delighted by the opening ceremonies of the WTF World Para-Taekwondo Championships and the WTF World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships taking place at the Gilberto Francois "Betico" Croes Sport Hall in Santa Cruz this weekend.

On Thursday evening, Aruba's Minister of Public

Health and Sport, Dr. Richard Visser was joined in the main arena by Minister of Infrastructure, Integration and Environment, Benny Sevinger for the official pronouncement of the opening of the games. Present on stage was President of the World Taekwondo Federation, Dr. Chungwon Choue, who accepted the declaration of fairness from the committee international referees, and

President of the Aruba Taekwondo Association Jose "Chaco" Cornelio.

In the style of Olympic opening events, a charming program by island school children honoring the music and culture of the various attending countries followed the march of the participating teams. Athletes from 16 countries, including Iran, Korea, Mongolia, Nepal, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Finland, France, Greece, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Guatemala, USA, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Chinese Taipei, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, and Dominican Republic have traveled to Aruba for the first WTF World Cup Tae Kwon Do Team Championships.

The opening event ended with a breathtaking display of martial arts virtuosity and athleticism by the WTF Exhibition Team. Preliminary matches for the World Cup began on Friday morning, and will continue through today. The quarter, semi and final matches will take place in the sport hall tomorrow beginning at 9:00 AM. The public is welcome to attend. Tickets are on sale at the door for \$10 for the day.

by Rosalie Klein
(more pictures on page 15)

